

## Agent Receives State Sentence In Illegal Alien Registration/Rate Evasion Scheme and Life Insurance Fraud



George Bradford pled guilty to one count of Corrupt Organization (F1), one count of Criminal Conspiracy (F3), one count of Theft by Deception (F3), one count of Deceptive or Fraudulent Business Practices (F3), one count of Identity Theft (F3), one count of Tampering w/Public Records or Information (F3), and one count of Unlawful Use of Computer (F3) in Chester County.

Bradford, was a licensed insurance agent and one of the principals of A-Affordable Insurance Agency. A-Affordable advertised that it would provide people who did not have driver's licenses, or any other appropriate identifying documentation, with vehicle registrations, insurance and tags enabling those

persons to drive cars in Pennsylvania. The scheme was accomplished through a "leasing program" that was directed at illegal aliens who paid A-Affordable substantial fees for these services. A-Affordable submitted title and registration paperwork to PennDOT falsely identifying itself as the owner of the car, accompanied by his co-conspirator's driver's license, when the cars were actually owned by illegal aliens. A-Affordable then "leased" the illegal alien's car back to him or her for a nominal fee. As part of the scheme, A-Affordable required the illegal aliens to buy documents called "international driver's licenses". These documents provided no driving privileges. A-Affordable also required its customers to buy auto insurance. However, in selling these policies, A-Affordable charged undisclosed fees in excess of the actual premiums and submitted to the insurance companies false and undocumented information about the identity, residence and license status of the insured driver. Hundreds of persons without driver's licenses or other proper documentation availed themselves of A-Affordable's "leasing program" and were provided license plates and registrations, bogus driver's licenses and proof of insurance cards to drive cars in Pennsylvania.

A-Affordable also carried out a second scheme in which it created over 2000 Globe Life insurance policies in names of persons who did not ask for the policy and usually did not even know that the policy existed. After the policies were created, and A-Affordable received their full commission, premium payments stopped. This resulted in a theft by A-Affordable of approximately \$300,000 in commissions.

On April 4, 2010, George Bradford was sentenced to serve 4 years and 4 months to 8 years and 8 months incarceration and 5 years consecutive probation, ordered to pay a fine of \$100,000 and restitution of \$300,000 joint and several and all court costs.

## ARRESTS Insurance Fraud

On April 8, 2010, Stephanie Aleksiejczyk was arrested in Lehigh County. According to the Criminal Complaint, Aleksiejczyk filed a civil action against Lehigh Valley Hospital who is self-insured. Aleksiejczyk claimed that she



was thrown off a golf cart, used to transport herself and a friend at the hospital, when the driver accelerated at a high rate of speed. As a result, Aleksiejczyk claimed that she received severe and permanent injuries. However, the Complaint stated that a video recording revealed that Aleksiejczyk did not fall off and injure herself. Aleksiejczyk's civil lawsuit seeking no less than \$50,000 in damages was discontinued on March 1, 2010. Stephanie Aleksiejczyk has been charged with one count of Insurance Fraud (F3), one count of Criminal Attempt/Theft by Deception (F3) and False Swearing (M3).

- On April 23, 2010, John Bowman was arrested in Philadelphia County. According to the Criminal Complaint, NJ State Police observed Bowman's car being driven into an auto salvage / storage facility under investigation for shipping stolen cars overseas on July 15, 2008. Bowman's car remained at that location until September 24, 2008, when it was recovered during the execution of a search warrant. The Complaint stated that on July 19, 2008, Bowman reported his car stolen to the Philadelphia Police. Furthermore, the Complaint stated that Bowman told police and, later, the State Farm Insurance Company, his insurer, that he parked his car in Philadelphia on July 18th, and discovered it stolen the next morning. State Farm paid the lien holder \$25,436.31. John Bowman has been charged with one count of Insurance Fraud (F3), Theft by Deception (F3) and False Reports to Law Enforcement Authorities (M3).
- On April 14, 2010, Matthew Benedict, Sr. was arrested in Bucks County. According to the Criminal Complaint, Benedict was involved in an accident on July 27, 2009, when he

- off the road swerved and into embankment near his home. The Complaint stated that Benedict's vehicle was insured with the Infinity Insurance Company; however, Benedict was listed as an excluded driver due to a suspended driver's license. The Complaint further stated that Benedict left the scene of the accident, and the following day his wife made a claim to Infinity stating that their son had been driving at the time of the accident. Matthew Benedict, Sr. has been charged with one count of Insurance Fraud (F3) and Criminal Attempt/Theft by Deception (F3).
- On April 23, 2010, Annette Kennedy and David Holland, Jr. were arrested in York County. According to the Criminal Complaint, Holland was involved in a three-vehicle collision while operating Kennedy's vehicle. Holland, an excluded driver on Kennedy's auto policy, conspired with Kennedy to tell the Progressive Insurance Company that Kennedy was driving and Holland was her passenger. Additionally, the Complaint stated that Kennedy provided the false information to Progressive during a recorded statement and that when Holland was contacted by Progressive, he did not correct the insurer's impression that Holland was the passenger at the time of the accident. However, the Complaint stated that witnesses stated that Kennedy was not present when the crash occurred and that a male was driving the Progressive denied payment of Kennedy's claim, but did pay more than \$6,000 in claim proceeds for damage to the two struck vehicles. Annette Kennedy has been charged with two counts of Insurance (F3), one count of Attempt/Theft by Deception (F3) and one count of Criminal Conspiracy (F3). Holland has been charged with one count of Insurance Fraud (F3) and Criminal Conspiracy (F3).
- On April 20, 2010, Eric McFadden was arrested in Bucks County. According to the Criminal Complaint, McFadden obtained dental treatment on eight different occasions by identifying himself to two dentists as his cousin, Matthew Ruvolo. The Complaint stated that McFadden provided the dentists with Ruvolo's dental insurance information

and signed treatment forms in Ruvolo's name. One dentist billed the United Concordia Insurance Company \$2,106 for treatment provided to McFadden and received \$1,191 in payment and the other dentist billed United Concordia \$6,300 and received \$4,794. Both dentists also sent bills to Ruvolo for treatment that was not covered totaling \$353. Eric McFadden has been charged with two counts of Insurance Fraud (F3), two counts of Theft by Deception (F3 & M1), two counts of Forgery (F3), two counts of Identity Theft (F3) and one count of Criminal Attempt/Theft by Deception (M1).

- On April 12, 2010, Susan Winczuk was arrested in Philadelphia County. According to the Criminal Complaint, Winczuk's vehicle was repossessed on April 9, 2009, and in order to get her vehicle back. Winczuk obtained an automobile policy with the Progressive Insurance Company on April 30, 2009. The Complaint further stated that on May 20th, Winczuk submitted a claim to Progressive alleging her vehicle suffered damage as a result of a hit and run accident while parked near residence Philadelphia. her in Additionally, the Complaint stated that Winczuk took the vehicle to a repair shop and had temporary repairs made. However, the Complaint alleged that Winczuk had damaged her vehicle on March 9th, during the time when she did not have insurance coverage. Susan Winczuk has been charged with one count of Insurance Fraud (F3) and Criminal Attempt/Theft by Deception (M1).
- On April 28, 2010, Felix Feliciano, Jr. was arrested in Dauphin County. According to the Criminal Complaint, Feliciano filed a claim with the Nationwide Insurance Company and reported to the Harrisburg Police that on July 29, 2008, he was sitting in his parked car when another individual backed into him. Feliciano claimed that as a result of this accident, he injured his neck, left foot and back. However, the Complaint stated that Feliciano was not in the vehicle at the time of the accident. Felix Feliciano, Jr. has been charged with one count of Insurance Fraud (F3), Theft by Deception (M1) and False Reports to Law Enforcement Authorities (M3).

- On April 14, 2010, Michelle Kollek was arrested in Butler County. According to the Criminal Complaint, Kollek was involved in a two-car accident at a time when Kollek's auto policy with the Nationwide Insurance Company had expired. The Complaint stated that following the accident, Kollek re-instated her insurance with Nationwide. Additionally, the Complaint stated that soon thereafter, Kollek reported the accident to Nationwide, but misrepresented the time of the accident take advantage of her re-instated coverage. Furthermore, the Complaint stated that Kollek also reported that some preexisting damage to her vehicle resulted from this accident. Michelle Kollek has been charged with one count of Insurance Fraud (F3) and one count of Criminal Attempt/Theft by Deception (M1).
- On April 29, 2010. Chad Cahill was arrested in Westmoreland County. According to the Criminal Complaint. Cahill was passenger in his vehicle when he opened his door striking another vehicle that was



pulling into the space beside his. The Complaint stated that Cahill belligerent and refused to provide insurance information. However, out of the presence of Cahill, the driver of Cahill's vehicle provided an insurance card to the driver of the other vehicle, unaware that the policy had expired. Furthermore, the Complaint stated that following the accident, Cahill obtained liability coverage for his vehicle from the Safe Auto Company, withholding Insurance information that he had previously been in an Additionally, Cahill subsequently accident. reported the accident, providing information as to the time it occurred. Chad Cahill has been charged with one count of Insurance Fraud (F3), Criminal Attempt/Theft by Deception (M1) and Insurance Fraud (M1).

 On April 28, 2010, John Hopkins, Jr. was arrested in Indiana County. According to the Criminal Complaint, Hopkins filed a claim with the State Farm Insurance Company reporting that he struck a deer and then hit a tree. However, the Complaint stated that the damage to the vehicle appeared to have occurred a significant time prior to the claim. Furthermore, the Complaint stated that Hopkins was involved in an automobile accident in February 2008, in which he ran into a telephone pole. The Complaint alleged that had the accident occurred as Hopkins claimed, it would have been covered under Hopkins' comprehensive insurance, Hopkins paying a \$100 deductible. However, since Hopkins actually struck a telephone pole, the claim would have been processed under his collision coverage, with Hopkins having to pay a \$1,000 deductible. Hopkins, Jr. has been charged with one count of Insurance Fraud (F3) and Criminal Attempt/Theft by Deception (F3).

On April 28, 2010, Christina Gamble was arrested in Bucks County. According to the Criminal Complaint, Gamble suffered a work related injury while working as a waitress at the Red Robin Restaurant in Quakertown. As a result of her injury, Gamble began receiving workers' compensation benefits and signed multiple forms from the Department of Labor indicating that she was not working in order for her benefits to continue. However, the Complaint stated that during a portion of the time period for which Gamble was receiving benefits, she was working as an exotic dancer at CR Fanny's Gentleman's Club and Bar in Easton. Christina Gamble has been charged with two counts of Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud (F3) and one count of Theft by Deception (F3).

## CONVICTIONS Insurance Fraud

 Garfield Babagee pled guilty to one count of Insurance Fraud (F3) and one count of Identity Theft (M1) in Dauphin County. Babagee provided false information to obtain a Pennsylvania driver's license, vehicle registration



and automobile insurance on his vehicle. Our investigation revealed that Babagee did not reside in Pennsylvania and provided false information regarding his address in order to obtain lower rates on his automobile insurance. On April 12, 2010, Garfield

Babagee was sentenced to serve 120 days to 23 months incarceration and was ordered to perform 40 hours of community service and to pay all court costs.

- Jacient Bray was found guilty of one count of Insurance Fraud (F3), one count of Theft by Deception (M1) and two counts of Act 64 Drug Violations (F) in a jury trial in Jefferson County. Bray, a pharmacist, submitted fraudulent claims to the Highmark prescriptions Insurance Company for allegedly written for him. Bray altered prescriptions for Hydrocodone, a Schedule III controlled substance, to show more refills than actually had been prescribed and then billed Highmark for them. On April 21, 2010, Jacient Bray was sentenced to serve 1 year intermediate punishment with the first 90 days incarceration and the next 90 days on house arrest, 8 years consecutive probation and ordered to pay restitution of \$2,741.84, a fine of \$1,500 and all court costs.
- Taryn Yunginger pled guilty to one count of Insurance Fraud (F3) in Lancaster County. automobile Yunginger reinstated her the Progressive insurance policy with Insurance Company on September 7, 2007, at 10:45 P.M. On September 13, 2007, Yunginger reported to Progressive that her vehicle had been in an accident on September 7, 2007, between 11:00 PM and 11:30 P.M. Our investigation revealed that the accident occurred around 8:50 P.M. on September 7th, prior to her reinstating the lapsed coverage. On April 29, 2010, Taryn Yunginger was sentenced to serve 2 years probation and ordered to perform 100 hours of community service, pay a fine of \$200, restitution of \$4,019.48 and all court costs.
- Charles Carlin pled guilty to 3 counts of Failure to Insure Workers' Compensation (M3) in Dauphin County. Carlin failed to secure workers' compensation insurance coverage for the employees of his business, Carlin Messenger Service, LLC between January 19, 2005 and April 15, 2005. During that period, one of Carlin's workers was injured while on the job. Although an administrative judge awarded the employee partial and total disability workers' compensation benefits, those benefits were unavailable because

Carlin had no coverage at the time of the injury. Our investigation revealed that Carlin personally handled all company insurance matters and had secured workers' compensation insurance before and after the 87 day period of non-coverage. On April 12, 2010, Charles Carlin was sentenced to serve 2 years probation and ordered to perform 50 hours of community service, pay a fine of \$300, restitution of \$137,144.73 and all court Carlin Messenger Service LLC was fined \$500 and is no longer in business.

Ralph Dennis pled guilty to one count of Theft by Deception (F3) in Dauphin County. Dennis, while receiving long term disability benefits from the Unum Insurance Company between November, 2004 and



July, 2008, made numerous verbal and written statements to insurance company representatives in which he claimed that he was not receiving Social Security Disability Income (SSDI). Under the Unum policy, long term disability benefit payments would have been offset by any SSDI that Dennis received. Dennis eventually admitted, and SSA records confirmed, that he received SSDI benefits in addition to long term disability payments. Unum determined that it had paid Dennis more than \$21,500 above and beyond his entitlement. On April 12, 2010, Ralph Dennis was sentenced to serve 2 years probation and ordered to perform 50 hours of community service, pay a fine of \$250 and all court costs. Restitution is being withheld from the monthly long term disability benefits.

Matthew Foreman pled guilty to one count of Criminal Attempt/Theft by Deception (M1) in Lycoming County. Foreman's girlfriend was driving his Explorer when an accident occurred. Foreman was not present at the scene of the accident. Following the accident, Progressive contacted the Insurance Company and obtained liabilityonly coverage for the vehicle. The driver of the second car filed a damage claim later that day. Foreman falsely told Progressive that he was unaware of the accident when he obtained the coverage and that he learned about the accident when his girlfriend called

him approximately twenty minutes after the fact. Our investigation of the phone records revealed that Foreman's girlfriend had called him immediately after the accident took place and a few minutes later, Foreman called Progressive and added the coverage. Foreman admitted that he lied to Progressive in an effort to avoid financial liability for damage to the other vehicle which exceeded \$7,000. On April 12, 2010, Matthew Foreman was sentenced to serve 2 years probation and ordered to perform 50 hours of community service and pay all court costs.

- Maurice Rouse pled guilty to one count of Insurance Fraud (F3) in Cambria County. Rouse reported to the Motorists Insurance Company that his wife, while driving their Altima, collided with another vehicle on August 29, 2008. Rouse was an excluded driver on the policy as his driver's license had been suspended. Our investigation revealed that Rouse was the driver of the vehicle at the time of the accident. On April 27, 2010, Maurice Rouse was sentenced to serve 2 years probation and ordered to pay a fine of \$500, restitution of \$802 and all court costs.
- Michael Coia pled guilty to one count of Insurance Fraud (F3) and one count of Theft by Deception (F3) in Montgomery County. Coia's automobile insurance with the Allstate Insurance Company lapsed on December 7, 2008, due to policy non-payment. On January 5, 2009, Coia poured power steering fluid into the brake line of the car, causing damage to the brake line. Coia reinstated his comprehensive coverage on the 8th of January. Coia then made a claim to AllState, reporting that his car had been vandalized on the 22nd of January, by someone pouring power steering fluid into the brake line. Coia post dated the claim to fall after the policy was reinstated. On April 27, 2010, Michael Coia was sentenced to serve 2 years probation and ordered to pay restitution of \$2,376.59 and all court costs.

## (ARD) DISPOSITIONS

During the month of April, five additional defendants received Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD).